

STATE OF NEW JERSEY
DEPARTMENT OF LAW & PUBLIC SAFETY
DIVISION OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS
STATE BOARD OF NURSING

IN THE MATTER OF THE LICENSE OF :	Administrative Action
:	:
JOANNA REMSON, LPN :	FINAL ORDER
License # 26NP03604600 :	OF DISCIPLINE
:	:
TO PRACTICE NURSING IN THE :	:
STATE OF NEW JERSEY :	:

This matter was opened to the New Jersey State Board of Nursing ("Board") upon receipt of information which the Board has reviewed and upon which the following findings of fact and conclusions of law are made:

FINDINGS OF FACT

1. Joanna Remson ("Respondent") is a Licensed Practical Professional Nurse (LPN) in the State of New Jersey and has been a licensee at all relevant times.

2. On or about April 27, 2011, the Board received information from Robert Wood Johnson University Hospital ("RWJUH") that Respondent had been terminated for professional misconduct which relates adversely to patient care or safety. It was alleged that Respondent administered medication via IV Push to two patients for a total of eight doses. Respondent documented that six of these doses were administered by the Head Nurse and two of these doses were administered by herself, when,

in fact, she administered all eight doses. Pursuant to hospital policy, Respondent, as an LPN, was not authorized to administer any medications via IV Push.

3. On or about August 8, 2011 the Board sent Respondent a Demand for Written Statement under Oath. The Demand requested that Respondent provide responses to ten (10) questions, including question 9 which asks "Please provide your version of what occurred".

4. In response to question 9, Respondent admitted that she was guilty of breaching hospital policy. She administered medication via IV Push and she documented some doses as being administered by the Head Nurse and two doses as being administered by herself. Respondent maintains that the Head Nurse was aware of her actions and that she had been instructed to sign that the IV meds had been "given by other" and that the Head Nurse would sign for those medications later.

CONCLUSIONS OF LAW

Respondent's administering of medication via IV Push violated hospital policy and constituted an act which is outside her scope of permitted practice as a Licensed Practical Nurse at that facility. Further, Respondent falsely documented that the IV push medication had been administered by the Head Nurse, when it had been administered by herself. As such, the Board

determined that Respondent engaged in professional misconduct which subjects her to sanctions pursuant to N.J.S.A. 45:1-21(e).

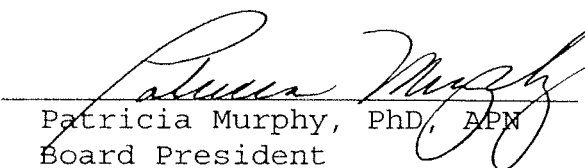
Based on the foregoing findings and conclusions, a Provisional Order of Discipline was entered on August 27, 2012, provisionally imposing a public reprimand for professional misconduct in administering medication contrary to facility policy and falsely documenting that another nurse had administered it. A copy of the Order was forwarded to respondent by certified and regular mail at her address of record. The Provisional Ordre was subject to finalization by the Board at 5:00 p.m. on the 30th business day following entry unless respondent requested a modification or dismissal of the stated Findings of Fact or Conclusions of Law by submitting a written request for modification or dismissal setting forth in writing any and all reasons why said findings and conclusions should be modified or dismissed and submitting any and all documents or other written evidence supporting respondent's request for consideration and reasons therefor.

Respondent replied to the Provisional Order and did not contest the findings of fact or conclusions of law set forth in the August 27, 2012 Order. The Board therefore considered respondent's submission, and determined that further proceedings were not necessary, and that the Provisional Order should be made final.

ACCORDINGLY, IT IS on this 1st day of February, 2013,
ORDERED that:

1. Respondent is hereby reprimanded for engaging in
professional misconduct.

NEW JERSEY STATE BOARD OF NURSING

By: 
Patricia Murphy, PhD, APRN
Board President